

Heart alumni for their legacy of service. I am confident that this proud history and tradition will continue in the spirit of St. Madeleine Sophie for years to come.

#### PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES, NOT THE GUN INDUSTRY

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, it has been reported that the Senate may consider the misnamed Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act in the near future. I was pleased that this legislation was defeated during the 108th Congress, and I continue to oppose its passage.

This bill would rewrite well-accepted principles of liability law, providing the gun industry legal protections not enjoyed by other industries. It would grant broad immunity from liability even in cases where gross negligence or recklessness led to someone being injured or killed. Enactment of this special interest legislation for the gun industry would also lead to the termination of a wide range of pending and prospective civil cases, depriving gun violence victims with legitimate cases of their day in court.

It would be all the more irresponsible for the Senate to pass the gun industry immunity legislation while also continuing to ignore many gun safety issues that are critically important to the law enforcement community. Recent editorials in major newspapers around the country have highlighted Congress' inability to enact common sense gun safety legislation. An editorial from Monday's edition of the Los Angeles Times stated: Over the last four years, the president and his congressional allies have repudiated or quietly eviscerated key gun laws and regulations. Now they are poised to shield firearms makers and sellers from nearly all damage claims when their products kill or maim.

Thus far, Congress has failed to act to reauthorize the assault weapons ban that expired on September 13, 2004. This inaction allowed criminals and terrorists potential easy access to many of the most powerful and deadly firearms manufactured. In addition, Congress has failed to close a loophole that allows individuals on terrorist watch lists to buy these weapons and has failed to pass legislation that would, at the very least, require a background check for individuals attempting to buy the previously banned assault weapons at gun shows.

Rather than considering a bill to protect members of the gun industry from liability, we should help protect our families and communities by addressing the loopholes that potentially allow known and suspected terrorists to legally purchase military style firearms within our own borders. I again urge my colleagues to take up and pass common sense gun safety legislation that will address these loopholes and the threats they pose.

I ask unanimous consent that the April 11, 2005 Los Angeles Times edi-

torial titled "Remember Gun Control?" be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Los Angeles Times, Apr. 11, 2005]

#### REMEMBER GUN CONTROL?

After four years of George W. Bush, the notions that some people might be too dangerous or unstable to trust with a firearm or that assault weapons do not belong in civilized society are deadlier than a wild turkey in hunting season.

During Bush's first campaign, a National Rifle Assn. leader quipped, "If we win, we'll have a president where we work out of their office." How right he was.

Over the last four years, the president and his congressional allies have repudiated or quietly eviscerated key gun laws and regulations. Now they are poised to shield firearms makers and sellers from nearly all damage claims when their products kill or maim. Not only is this a gift no other industry enjoys, it's a truly bad idea that even gun owners have reason to oppose.

Last year, Republican congressional leaders simply ran out the clock on the 10-year-old federal assault gun ban, refusing to even call a vote on renewing it despite steady popular support for the law. Bush, who once claimed that he supported the ban, refused to make so much as a phone call to his House or Senate allies to keep it alive. With it died the ban on domestically made ammunition clips with more than 10 rounds, a boon for any disgruntled employee, terrorist or high school student who wants to mow down a crowd. The president also signed a bill that requires the destruction within 24 hours of all records from background checks of gun buyers. And Congress required the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to keep secret the data that tracks weapons used in crimes.

Meanwhile, a Government Accountability Office study examining FBI and state background-check records found that 35 people whose names appeared on terrorism watch lists were able to buy a gun. Incredibly, a would-be buyer's presence on a watch list does not disqualify him or her from buying a firearm. Because background-check data now must be promptly destroyed, it is impossible to know how many more terrorism suspects might be lawfully armed.

The immunity bill, introduced by Sen. Larry E. Craig (R-Idaho) and Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-Fla.), would protect gun manufacturers and sellers from damage suits by victims of gun violence. It would even block injury suits from gun owners. That means gun owners can't sue if poorly made handguns explode in their hands or fire unintentionally. In many instances, the bill would shield gun dealers who allow criminals to buy a firearm, by severely weakening the ATF's ability to shut down unscrupulous dealers.

This reckless measure, long on the NRA's wish list, has come before Congress before, but enough lawmakers balked. This time, emboldened by last November's GOP victories, there looks to be less resistance. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) says he's ready to call for a floor vote any time. Unless voters speak up.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. MAURICE HILLEMAN

Mr. BAUCUS. Madam President, I rise today to memorialize the life and accomplishments of Dr. Maurice

Hilleman, a renowned microbiologist and native son of Montana.

Dr. Maurice R. Hilleman dedicated his life to developing vaccines for mumps, measles, chickenpox, pneumonia, meningitis and other diseases, saving tens of millions of lives. He died on Monday at a hospital in Philadelphia at the age of 85.

Raised on a farm in Montana, Dr. Hilleman credited much of his success to his boyhood work with chickens, whose eggs form the foundation of so many vaccines. Much of modern preventive medicine is based on Dr. Hilleman's work, though he never received the public recognition of Salk, Sabin or Pasteur. He is credited with having developed more human and animal vaccines than any other scientist, helping to extend human life expectancy and improving the economies of many countries.

According to two medical leaders, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and Dr. Paul A. Offit, chief of infectious diseases at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, Dr. Hilleman probably saved more lives than any other scientist in the 20th century. "The scientific quality and quantity of what he did was amazing," Dr. Fauci is quoted as saying. "Just one of his accomplishments would be enough to have made for a great scientific career. One can say without hyperbole that Maurice changed the world with his extraordinary contributions in so many disciplines: virology, epidemiology, immunology, cancer research and vaccinology."

Dr. Hilleman developed 8 of the 14 vaccines routinely recommended: measles, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, chickenpox, meningitis, pneumonia and Haemophilus influenzae bacteria. He also developed the first generation of a vaccine against rubella, also known as German measles. The vaccines have virtually vanquished many of the once common childhood diseases in developed countries.

In addition, Dr. Hilleman overcame immunological obstacles to combine vaccines so that one shot could protect against several diseases, like the MMR vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella. He developed about 40 experimental and licensed animal and human vaccines, mostly with his team from Merck of Whitehouse Station, NJ. His role in their development included lab work as well as scientific and administrative leadership.

And as a sign of his humility, Dr. Hilleman routinely credited others for their roles in advances, according to his colleagues.

Vaccine development is complex, requiring an artistry to safely produce large amounts of weakened live or dead microorganisms. Dr. Offit once said, "Maurice was that artist: no one had the green thumb of mass production that he had." The hepatitis B vaccine, licensed in 1981, is credited as the first

to prevent a human cancer: a liver cancer, known as a hepatoma, that can develop as a complication of infection from the hepatitis B virus.

One of Dr. Hilleman's goals was to develop the first licensed vaccine against any viral cancer. He achieved it in the early 1970s, developing a vaccine to prevent Marek's disease, a lymphoma cancer of chickens caused by a member of the herpes virus family. Preventing the disease helped revolutionize the economics of the poultry industry. Dr. Hilleman's vaccines have also prevented deafness, blindness and other permanent disabilities among millions of people, a point made in 1988 when President Ronald Reagan presented him with the National Medal of Science, the Nation's highest scientific honor.

Because scientific knowledge about viruses was so limited when he began his career, Dr. Hilleman said that trial and error, sound judgment and luck drove much of his research. Luck played a major role in the discovery of adenoviruses. Dr. Hilleman flew a team to Missouri to collect specimens from troops suffering from influenza. But by the time his team arrived, influenza had died out. Fearing that he would be fired for an expensive useless exercise, Dr. Hilleman seized on his observation of the occurrence of a fresh outbreak of a different disease. His team discovered three new types of adenoviruses among the troops.

In the early 1950s, he made a discovery that helps prevent influenza. He detected a pattern of genetic changes that the influenza virus undergoes as it mutates. The phenomenon is known as drift—minor changes—and shift—major changes. Vaccine manufacturers take account of drift in choosing the strains of influenza virus included in the vaccines that are freshly made each influenza season. Shifts can herald a large outbreak or pandemic of influenza, and Dr. Hilleman was the first to detect the shift that caused the 1957 Asian influenza pandemic. He read an article in the *New York Times* on April 17, 1957, about influenza among infants in Hong Kong—cases that had escaped detection from the worldwide influenza surveillance systems. At the time, he directed the central laboratory for worldwide military influenza surveillance and was sure that the cases represented the advent of an influenza pandemic. So he immediately sent for specimens from Hong Kong and helped isolate a new strain of influenza virus. He also demanded that breeders keep roosters that would otherwise have been slaughtered so they could fertilize enough eggs to prepare 40 million doses of influenza to protect Americans against the 1957 influenza strain.

Standing tall at six-foot-one and wearing reading glasses that rested on the tip of his nose, Dr. Hilleman described himself as a renegade. He often participated in scientific meetings, where he could be irascible while amusing his colleagues with profane asides.

At one of many meetings with this physician-reporter, a Thanksgiving Day dinner during a conference at the World Health Organization in Geneva in the 1980s, Dr. Hilleman said he was driven by a goal to get rid of disease and by a belief that scientists had to serve society.

Maurice Ralph Hilleman was born on Aug. 30, 1919, in Miles City, MT. His mother and twin sister died during his birth. In 1937, he went to work in the local J. C. Penney's store where he helped cowpokes, as he described his customers, pick out chenille bathrobes for their girlfriends, and he was well on the way to a career in retailing until his oldest brother suggested that he go to college. After graduating from Montana State University in 1941, he received his Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Chicago and then joined E. R. Squibb & Sons. There, he developed a vaccine against Japanese B encephalitis to protect American troops in the World War II Pacific offensive. In 1948, he moved to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and stayed until 1957, when Vannevar Bush, then chairman of Merck and a former director of the Federal Office of Scientific Research and Development in World War II, persuaded him to direct a virus research program for the drug company.

After retiring as senior vice president for Merck research laboratories in 1984, Dr. Hilleman continued to work on vaccines, saying they were needed for at least 20 diseases, including AIDS. Dr. Hilleman is survived by his wife, Lorraine, a retired nurse; two daughters, Jeryl Lynn of Palo Alto, CA., and Kirsten J. of New York City; two brothers, Victor, of Fontana, CA., and Norman, of Santa Barbara, CA.; and five grandchildren. His daughter Jeryl Lynn is at least in part responsible for the mumps vaccine. In 1963, when her salivary glands started to swell with the disease, Dr. Hilleman swabbed her throat and went on to isolate the virus. He then weakened it and within 4 years had produced the now-standard mumps vaccine. The weakened strain bears her name.

Mr. President, it is an honor for me to pay my respects to such a great and accomplished man as Dr. Maurice Hilleman. And it is an honor for me to call him a fellow Montanan.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### 100 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, on April 15, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu Engineer District, HED, will celebrate 100 years of exemplary service to Hawaii, the Pacific region, the U.S. military and the Nation.

For an entire century, the District has served with pride and distinction. I have personally witnessed their hard work and dedication to improve the

lives of our fellow citizens in many ways. They have never failed to answer the call.

The District has had a significant impact on the ability of our servicemen and women to fight the global war on terror; it has bolstered the region's economy and worked to enhance the safety of communities in and about waterways and the functionality of the many major harbors in my home State of Hawaii. In everything they do they safeguard the environment.

From civil works projects navigation, flood control and shore protection to building and maintaining the infrastructure for our military personnel, the Honolulu District is proud of its service.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' missions in the Pacific region have expanded exponentially since the unit's conception in 1905 when LT John Slattery was designated as Honolulu District Engineer on the Island of Oahu.

The mission of the Twelfth Light-house District was to design and construct lighthouses for navigation, acquire land for military fortifications, improve the harbors and expand the Corps' services to other Pacific islands.

In its first 100 years, the Honolulu District has supported the military in peace and in war, helped protect the island from enemies and forces of nature, protected the environment and wetlands, and added to Hawaii's economic growth.

HED's legacy includes: the creation of Sand Island; the acquisition of Fort DeRussy area in Waikiki; the expansion of Honolulu Harbor; the repair of Hickam, Wheeler and Pearl Harbor airfields after the December 1941 attack; the construction of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, the Tripler Army Medical Center, the Hale Koa Hotel and numerous military and federal construction projects; and the creation of the Kaneohe-Kailua Dam, as well as a host of disaster mitigation and assistance measures.

At the beginning of the 20th century, HED constructed six deep-draft harbors on the five major Hawaiian Islands and three crucial lighthouses for navigation.

Under Slattery's command, the District began transforming the swampy coral reef used as a quarantine station in Honolulu Harbor into what is now known as Sand Island. Lt. Slattery's contributions are honored today with the Lt. John R. Slattery Bridge which connects Sand Island with the City of Honolulu.

He later purchased the 74-acre Fort DeRussy area in Waikiki for just \$2,700 an acre for use as a military fortification. At the time, the land was little more than a swampy parcel. Today the area provides a valuable green oasis in the heart of Waikiki.

Throughout the 20th century, HED supported Oahu's defense by building a multitude of coastal fortifications including Pearl Harbor, Forts Ruger,